



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/845,999	09/24/2001	Douglas D Demasi		3383
7590 07/21/2010				
Joseph B. Taphorn 8 Scenic Dr. Hagan Farms Poughkeepsie, NY 12603-5521			EXAMINER MILLER, BENA B	
			ART UNIT 3725	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 07/21/2010	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/845,999

Applicant(s)

DEMASI, DOUGLAS D

Examiner

Bena Miller

Art Unit

3725

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 August 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-42 and 44-51 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21-42 and 44-51 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/02)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 21-34, 36-38, 40-42 and 44-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Woolley in view of Saghri (US Patent 5,498,184).

The device of Woolley reads on the limitations of the claimed invention including: Regarding claims 1 and 38, a wing section (combination 37, 31 and 39) and a fuselage or tail section (13) for on water and flying through the air aerodynamically and separable into two sections (fig. 9—first section and second section—board 13), comprising a first section constituting the wing (fig. 9) of the product and deriving its lift in flight from forces resulting from its motion through air and independently usable as a rideable element, and a second section constituting the fuselage or tail section (fig. 2 and 5) of the product and independently usable as a surfboard and the first section having longitudinally- extending control fins on its underside (41 and 43). In reference to "rideable element", it should be noted applicant has not claimed structure to read over the broadest interpretation of a "rideable element" (i.e., any structure that can support a user). Further, the wing section of Woolley will fly through the air depending on the speed of the boat, the lift against the water and the weight of the user. It should be also noted the second section can be used independently as a surfboard since the board is capable of being disconnected from the wing section as seen in figure 9. It should be

noted that depending on the bottom shape/structure of the fin, airflow is created on the top and bottom of the fin causing a positive or negative lift. Therefore, the examiner takes the position the wing section (fig.9) will derive its lift in flight from reaction forces.

Regarding claims 22, 23, 40, 46 and 47, the wing section has control elements (109 and 110) on its upper surface and the tail section has control elements (27) on its upper surface.

Regarding claims 24, 41 and 42, the wing section has longitudinally extending fins on its underside (41 and 43) and a central longitudinal fin on the underside of the first section (41 and 43).

Regarding claim 34, Woolley further teaches a device comprising a central front end portion (39), a wide rearward portion (33), and a central rearward portion having a rearward facing opening (109 and 110) for receiving an attachment rendering the body the wing of a recreational vehicle.

Regarding claim 36, Woolley further teaches fins that extend longitudinally on its underside (41 and 43).

Regarding claims 44 and 45, Woolley further teaches a product having wings (33 and 39) comprising first parts constituting wings of the product (fig.9) and a tail section (11) and a second part constituting the tail section (11--fig. 5 and 6).

Regarding claims 48, Woolley further teaches first parts constituting the wings have longitudinally extending fins on their undersides (41 and 43).

Woolley teaches most of the elements of the claimed invention including, generally thin and flat elongated portion (11), a wider rear end (13) on the elongated

portion, control elements on the upper surface (27) and a non-slip board (col. 5, lines 60-63). However Woolley fails to teach the tail section having longitudinally extending fins on the upper side of the product, thin fins extending upwardly and downwardly on the board and an inflatable bladder. Saghri teaches a board 30 having longitudinally extending fins (44 and 48) on the upper side for the purpose of enhancing the propulsive capability and stability of the board. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate longitudinally extending fins, as suggested by Saghri, on the upper side of Woolley, for the reasons set forth above. Further, Saghri further teaches that it is well known in the prior art to attach mechanical devices (i.e., fins) to the underside of the board so as to provide an obstacle against which rushing water impacts for propelling the board (see, col. 1, par. 5). Therefore, it would have been obvious to have the longitudinally extend fins extend downwardly on the board of Woolley for the reasons set forth above.

Also, Saghri teaches that it is well known to provide a recreational board with inflatable material (col. 6, par. 4). It would have been obvious one having ordinary skill in the art to use inflatable material as taught by Saghri for the device of either Woolley for the purpose of conveniently storing the device when deflated.

Claims 35 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Woolley in view of Schlueter (US Patent 3,320,625).

Woolley teaches most of the elements of the claimed invention except for a tow. Schlueter teaches that it is well known to provide a tow attached to the surface of a surfboard for towing the board. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in

Art Unit: 3725

the art to incorporate a tow, as suggested by Schlueter, in the device of Woolley for the reasons set forth above.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bena Miller whose telephone number is 571.272.4427. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dana Ross can be reached on 571-272-4480. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Bena Miller/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3725
July 19, 2010